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Airport rotunda is now open!



Official opening of Airport Rotunda

Construction crews acknowledged "it was an intense 16 weeks of work" to complete what is now Aruba's largest traffic circle, situated at the


airport/Cumena crossing of the Oranjestad/San Nicolas highway.


Continue on pg 2

!NOW OPEN!

KFC @ Palm Beach







Merry Christmas from The Morning NEWS

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Matthew 2:2

May your Christmas be wrapped in happiness and tied with love.

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Airport rotunda is now open!

Continued from pg 1



Early morning commuters from San Nicolas use the rotunda

Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister of Infrastructure, Immigration and Environment, Benny Sevinger were joined by airport officials and the construction team of MNO Vervat for the dawn opening of the highway.

Department of Public

Works Director Jossy Figaroa expressed gratitude to Project Managers Marlon Croes and Jossy Kock for seeing the work done on schedule and budget. The new "spiral" rotunda is expected to facilitate the flow of traffic at this crucial intersection, which tended to get particularly

backed up during commuting hours. Minister Sevinger confirmed its importance, as it will mark the beginning of the "Green Corridor" to San Nicolas, and the projected ring road that will allow through traffic to hotel areas to bypass the often bumper to bumper traffic in Oranjestad.

In the dawn's light, the Prime Minister and Minister Sevinger enjoyed the privilege of being the first to traverse the roundabout, joined by a group from the local Harley-Davidson Club in inaugurating the traffic circle.

Early morning commuters quickly joined them, relieved to no longer be required to follow the narrow temporary road set up during the construction phase. The circle quickly filled with traffic, horns honking in celebration of its completion.

By Rosalie Klein

Emergency Department of Hospital ready for holidays!

The festive days of Christmas and the New Year are upon us. Our local Hospital has learned from experience that during these days the Emergency Department receives an avalanche of visitors for a variety of reasons. Most of the visits, however, are for emergency cases. In this context it is also important to emphasize that, indeed, the Emergency Department is primarily for handling emergency situations.

Emergency Department (SEH):

The number of patients needing assistance during the

festive days can be enormous. Due to the fact that Doctors are not working with appointments on these days, people normally head to the Emergency Department to consult a Doctor. The consequence hereof is that the Hospital receives a great deal of patients who would normally go to their primary health care provider ('house doctor'), but instead come to the Emergency Department. The Emergency Department, however, is not equipped for that purpose. With so many people at the department makes for long wait lists.

Continue on pg 3

La Vista

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TUESDAY DECEMBER 25 2012 | 5:30 - 10:30 PM

\$54.95 P.P. | 6-12 HALF PRICE | 0-5 FREE

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Monday **Balloon Raffle \$500,-** Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day

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Emergency Department of Hospital ready for holidays!

continued from pg 2

During the festive days ahead, the Department will have extra personnel on hand to help alleviate the flow of patients and so doing help to reduce the waiting time.

Patients who come to the Emergency Department will have to pass through their 'triage' system by a professional emergency nurse. Based on the 'triage' system, which happens to be an inter-

national standardized system, they will determine the level of urgency of each patient. This will determine whether the patient will be attended immediately or if the patient will have to wait for other patients with greater urgency to be attended first. It is important for everyone to understand that getting to the Emergency Department is not a matter of "first come

first served." It could happen that your turn is about to come and someone appears whose case is of greater urgency and you would have to wait for that patient to receive help before you.

Doctors on duty/"Huisartsenpost" (HAP):

If your situation requires the attention of a primary doctor, you may proceed to the office of the Doctor on

duty situated next to the Urology Clinic. On holidays the scheduled hours are from **9:00am to 1:00pm and from 6:00pm to 10:00pm.**

Every patient is required to present with their AZV card, if not they will be required to pay cash for the services rendered. On December 24th and 25th and on December 31st, the Doctors offices will be open as usual according to the above sched-

ule.

Our Hospital hopes that the entire community will enjoy the festive days ahead, and reminds everyone to do so in a healthy and safe manner. Drive carefully, do not abuse alcohol and do not drive if you are drinking. Those on special Doctor prescribed diets, be sure to maintain your prescribed diet during these days.



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Obama picks John Kerry as secretary of state

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama on Friday nominated Senator John Kerry as his new secretary of state, as he began to reshape his national security team for a second term clouded by increased global turmoil.

Kerry, 69, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, defeated former presidential candidate and foreign policy sage, will succeed Hillary Clinton, who is stepping down after four years as the top US diplomat.

"Over these many years, John's earned the respect and confidence of leaders around the world," Obama said at the White House as he announced Kerry's nomination,

his first second-term cabinet pick.

"He is not going to need a lot of on the job-training."

Kerry stepped up following the withdrawal of UN ambassador Susan Rice, the early favorite for the post, who was caught in the political aftermath of the attack of the US consulate in Benghazi, Libya in September.

Obama said that Kerry, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, had played a central role in every US foreign policy debate for 30 years and that his "entire life" had prepared him for his new role.

Kerry saw life overseas as the son of a Cold War foreign service officer, served as a

navy officer in Vietnam, and spent years wrestling with foreign policy issues in the Senate.

Obama said that Clinton had hoped to be at the announcement, but was still recovering from a serious virus and a concussion.

The White House had hoped to make a clean sweep by announcing all nominations to the national security team, including new chiefs of the CIA and Pentagon at once.

But a crush of political events, including the "fiscal cliff" economic crisis, has pushed them back. A battle is already raging as opponents seek to tar former senator Chuck Hagel, a possible pick for Defense Secretary.

La Vista Christmas Day Brunch

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 OVEN ROASTED TURKEY WITH SAGE AND CRANBERRY SAUCE
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SETAR Teleshop and SETAR Store open today!



SETAR Teleshop and SETAR Store wishes to remind everyone that they will be open today from 7:45 am - 2 pm.

So all those who have not done their Christmas shopping as yet or did not find the perfect Christmas gift as yet

this is your opportunity!

SETAR has a great variation of the latest models in mobile phones, laptops, tablets and much more in stock, especially for the holidays.

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The Value of a Sermon

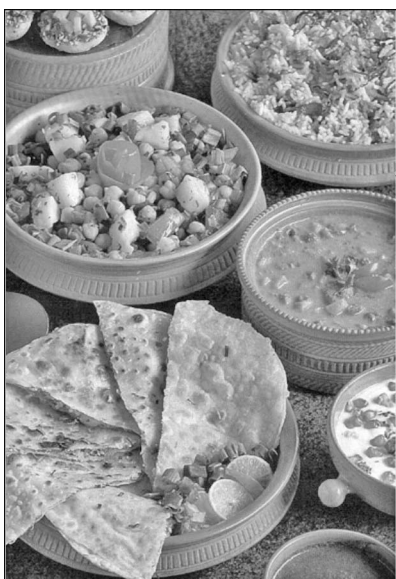
One Christmas morning, the Reverend Jones announced to his congregation, 'My good people, I have here in my hand three sermons.....

A \$50 sermon that lasts five minutes

A \$20 sermon that lasts thirty minutes

And a \$5 sermon that lasts a full hour.

Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver.'



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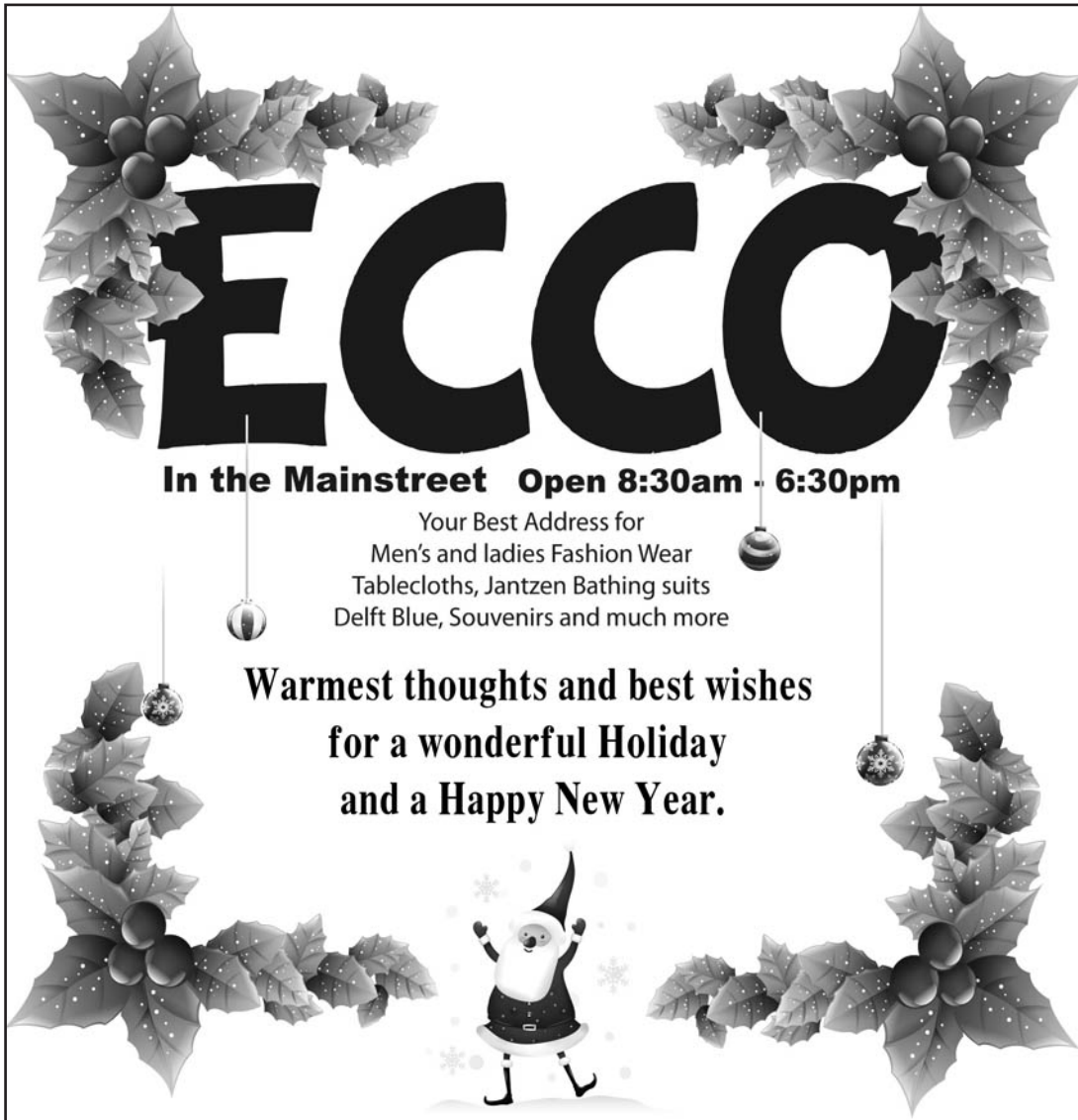
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for a wonderful Holiday
and a Happy New Year.**




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**Merry Christmas
and a Wonderful 2013**

Ayacas-a holiday tradition you must try!

--The regional influences on Aruban culture and traditions are particularly evident during the holiday season; many of the practices of the island's neighbor to the south are particularly a part of holiday celebrations.

Gaita bands are usually found at most celebrations, and a favorite item on the menu that makes a Christmas dinner complete is ayaca- derived from the hayaca, of Venezuela, also known as hallaca, which has been an essential part of the holiday meal for centuries.

The origins of the dish and even the etymology of the word ayaca is a matter of scholarly debate. Popular myth proposes during colonial times it was common practice for plantation owners to donate leftover Christmas food scraps, such as bits of pork and beef, to their slaves. These

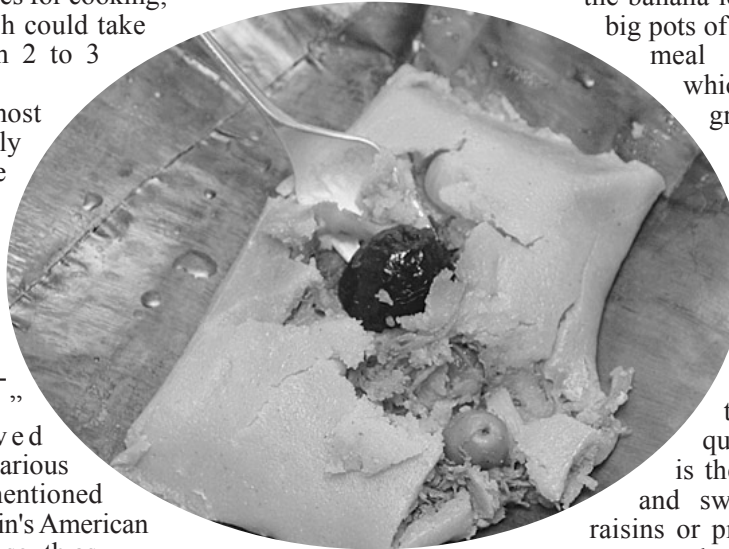
would be molded into a cornmeal paste to create a more substantial dish, then wrapped in plantain leaves for cooking; a process which could take anywhere from 2 to 3 hours.

However, most believe the likely origin of the maize body and plantain envelope of the hallaca is the Mesoamerican tamal - "Tamali?"

Tamal-derived dishes, under various names, are mentioned throughout Spain's American colonies, as far south as

Argentina, in the decades following the conquest. The word "hayaca" has been found in a Maracaibo document dated 1538, but etymologists

argue it most likely referred, at that time, to a bundle of raw corn. According to researcher



Adolfo Ernst, the word "hallaca" evolved from the indigenous tongue 'Guarani' and derives from the verb "ayua" or "ayuar", which means to mix or to blend. It is presumed that the term "ayuaca" (mixed things), evolved into "ayaca." The earliest use of the word was found in documents from 1781.

Arubans cannot imagine their Christmas meal without this filling, tasty treat. They have been a welcome part of the holiday in the memory of even the oldest islanders, so exactly when it became inte-

grated into Aruban culture has not been pinpointed. The day the women spend scrubbing the banana leaves, producing big pots of funchi, the cornmeal concoction in which the various ingredients are imbedded, is a treasured family gathering, where many compete to produce the best-tasting ayacas. The important factors in judging the quality of the cook is the balance of salt and sweet; olives and raisins or prunes with spicy meats and crunchy cashews create a memorable melange. The intriguing mix and contrasts of textures and flavors are the indicators of a superior ayaca.

Every family and cook has their own style and recipe; the seasoning of the chicken, a piece of ham or not. Holland's colonial influence on the preparation is sometimes evident as well. Various Caribbean spices depending on location, can result in non-traditional ayacas; their commonality is they are all delicious!

Ayacas can be found in the frozen food section of most island supermarkets. If any are left this close to Christmas, do buy some to prepare in your timeshare, or try them when offered on the menu of many resort Christmas buffets. Simply boil for 30 minutes to defrost and warm, clip the string and unwrap to savor this singular tradition of holiday season on the islands.

by Rosalie Klein



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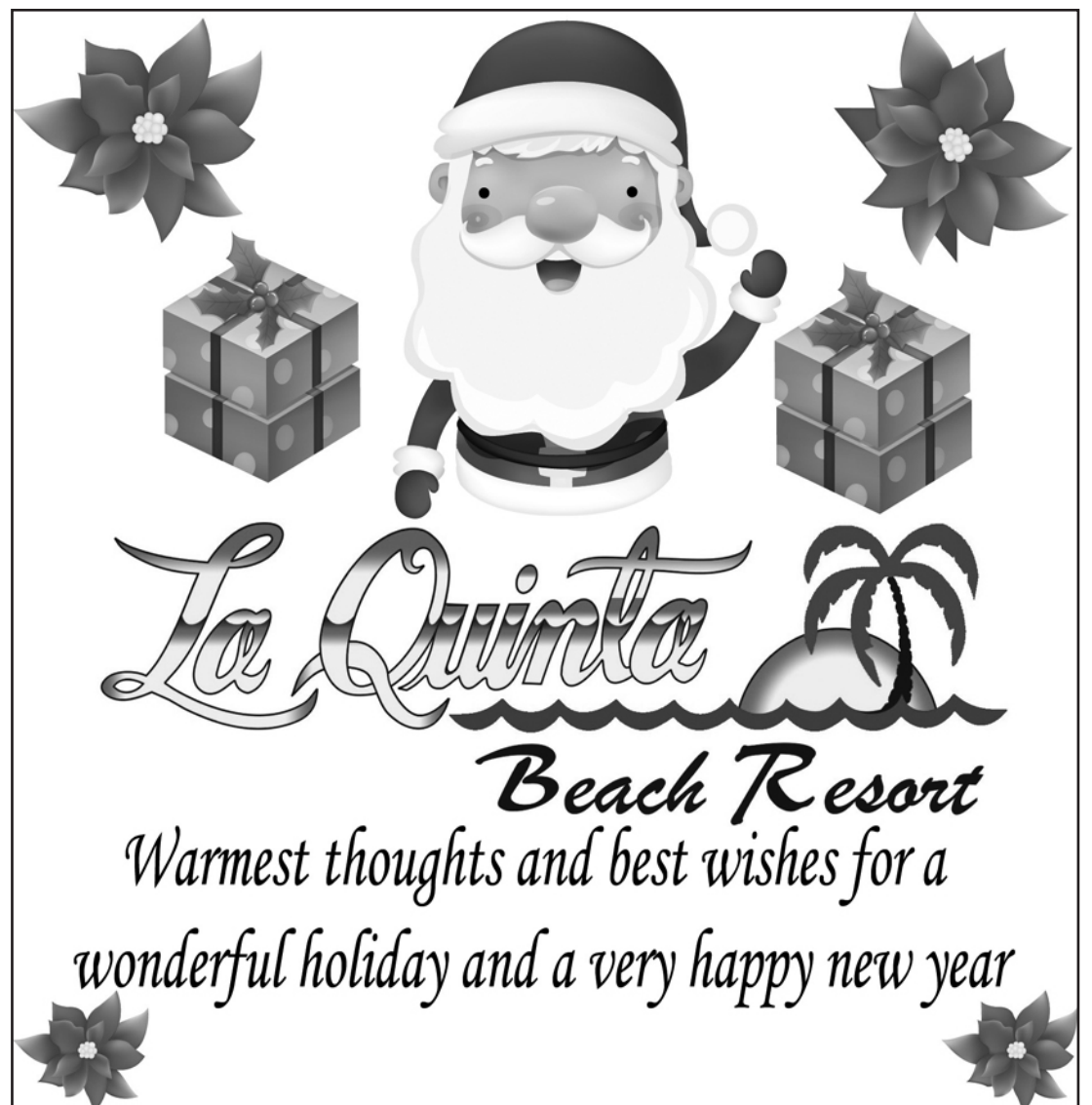
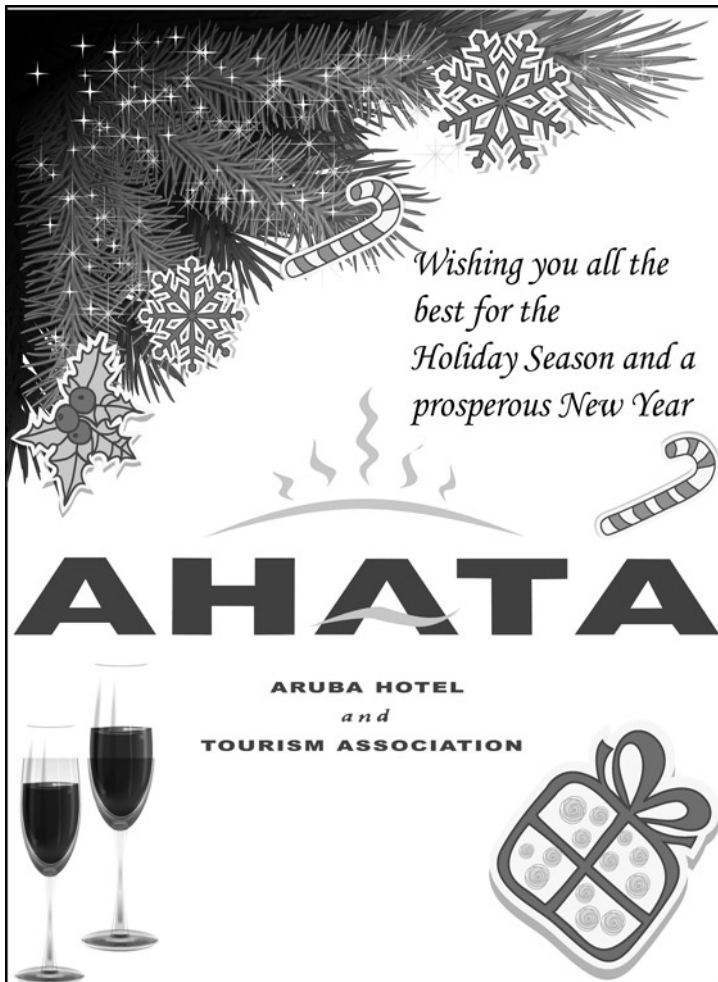
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THE FOCUS IS ON YOU!

A World of Good Wishes.
One of the real joys this holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you and wish you the very best for the new year



Happy Holiday



(see photos by Rosalie Klein on page 1)

to say 'Welcome', at The Holiday Inn Hotel.

*We wish you health, comfort,
and prosperity this holiday
season. Season's Greetings*



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Happy Holidays



*Its Where Santa
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Sun, Sand and the Warmth of the Season

There's no Christmas like a Caribbean Christmas

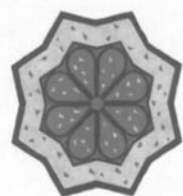
RBC Royal Bank extends compliments of the season and our best wishes for health, joy and prosperity in 2013. We look forward to continue being your preferred and trusted financial services partner for many years to come.

Strength at Work for You



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Coffee Break
Coffee Ice Cream Pastry

*Happy
Holidays*



A new year brings new opportunities

We wish you

Happy Holidays

*and a
Productive 2013*

From all of us at



Best of all, Christmas means a spirit of love,

a time when the love of God and love of our fellow men should prevail over all hatred and bitterness,

a time when our thoughts and deeds and the spirit of our lives manifest the presence of God.

-George F. McDougall



**Greetings of
the Season
and
Best Wishes
for the New Year!
Wishing you
a Joyous
Holiday Season
and A Very Happy
and
Peaceful New Year**

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May the peace and joy

of the holiday season

be with you throughout

the coming year.



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During this **Holiday Season**,
our thoughts turn **Gratefully** to
all our **Loyal Coffee and**
Tea Customers. It is in this
Spirit that we say...

“Thank You”

and let every
Cup you take **overflow with**
Blessings all year through.



5 holiday party tips for pet owners

-- As you and your loved ones gather for holiday parties, keep in mind that your pets may also have their eyes on the feast. Here are some tips to keep them out of harm's way and healthy:

1. **Keep food and wrappers out of reach.** Agile and clever pets are known to take food and anything that smells like food from the floor, kitchen counter, trash bins and tables.
2. **Resist offering leftovers.** Rich and fatty foods like gravy, dressing and pie can cause painful and serious health problems. The bones easily splinter and can cause fatal injuries.
3. **Keep decorations out of reach.** Climbing cats and dogs with wagging tails and curious noses can knock over candles and other decorations. Some pets may also chew on decorations that look or sound like toys.
4. **Plan ahead.** Have pet appropriate treats on hand. Consider cooking a special treat for your pet. Dog owners may want to take their pooches out for an extra walk before guests arrive.
5. **Set up a quiet zone.** It's easy to get stressed amid the holiday chaos. Place the pet's crate or bed in a room or area where it can relax. A special toy may also help your pet burn off some stress and enjoy the festivities safely.

post aruba

ANNOUNCEMENT

Post Aruba N.V. would like to inform all its clients that: **On December 22nd, 2012:**

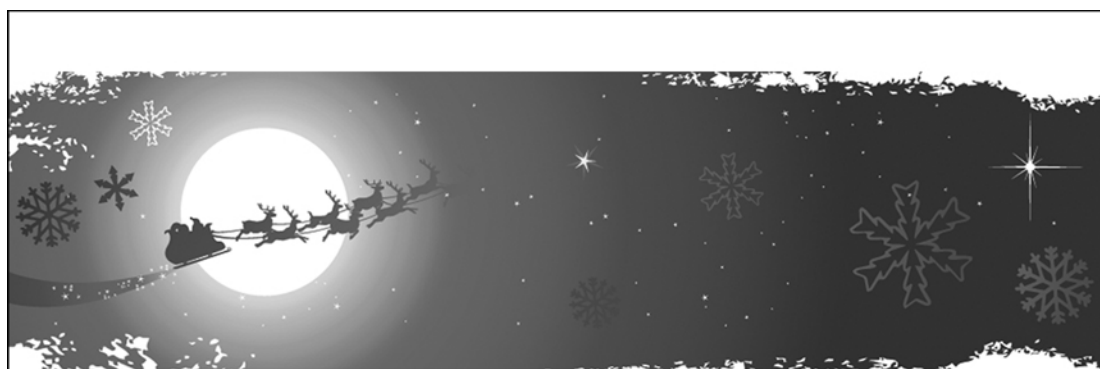
The post office at Palm Beach Plaza Mall will be **open from 8am until 8pm**

All offices of Post Aruba will be closed on **Monday December 24th, 2012.**

All our offices will operate with its normal business hours on **December 27, 2012.**

Management and staff would like to wish you a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,
Management



Post Aruba wishes you to enjoy
all the timeless treasures
of Christmas and New Year!



post aruba



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Police fear turf war as biker gangs arrive in Europe

THE HAGUE (AFP) - A wave of biker gangs from the US, Canada and Australia arriving in Europe has raised fears of deadly turf battle like the Nordic biker wars of the 1990s, European police agency Europol warned on Friday.

Gangs such as the Comancheros and Rebels from Australia, Rock Machine from Canada and the Mongols and Vagos from the US were moving into Europe, said a Europol statement.

The total number of what it called Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMCG) in Europe now ran at more than 700, it said.

The gangs were seeking out particularly a dangerous hard core of recruits in their bid to seize territory to traffic drugs, weapons and people.

Now they were approaching far-right militants, prison gang members, hooligans and military personnel to exploit their expert knowledge, said Europol.

The gangs "have a propensity to use extreme forms of violence", including with Kalashnikov assault rifles and grenades.

Modern biker gangs were becoming less associated with the biker lifestyle, with some members having neither a motorbike nor a driving licence, Europol noted.

The deadly conflict exploded when the Bandidos gang penetrated Nordic countries and challenged the Hell's Angels for a region that had been under their control for more than a decade.

Bikers used weapons including assault rifles, anti-tank weapons and car bombs against each other, leaving at least 11 bikers dead and dozens wounded.

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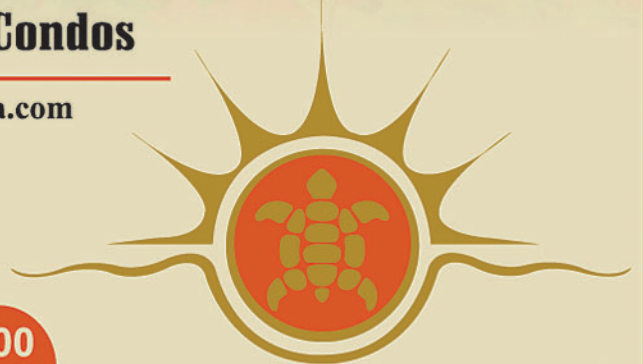
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3 course \$ 35,- Appetizer or soup- Main course-dessert	Bombe smoked salmon served with shallots chips, lime mayonnaise <i>Or</i> Roasted turkey with a crispy vegetable salad *****	Dutch style Gourmet pan * <i>Or</i> Grilled Beef tenderloin served with a red wine sauce <i>Or</i> Almond crusted Mahimahi served with a lemon-butter sauce <i>Or</i> Gnocchi in tomato sauce with fresh basil and crispy parmesan cheese chips	Luke warm dutch apple pie served with vanilla ice cream <i>Or</i> Deep fried crispy island banana served with chocolate ice cream and butterscotch sauce	
4 course \$ 39,50 Appetizer-soup- Main course-dessert	Creamy mushroom soup served with chives and garlic butter toast <i>Or</i> Dutch onion soup served with croutons with Gouda cheese			

For more information or reservation contact us 5864747 or mail to rembrandt@setarnet.aw

Psy's 'Gangnam Style' reaches one billion views

SEOUL (AFP) - Psy's "Gangnam Style" became the first video to hit a billion views on YouTube on Friday, marking a fresh milestone in the global craze for the South Korean rapper and his horse-riding dance.

The view counter attached to "Gangnam Style," which was only posted on the video-sharing site July 15, clicked over into 10 figures at around 1550 GMT, confirming its status as the most viewed video in the site's history.

"One billion views is an incredible number," said Kevin Allocca, YouTube trends manager, who attributed Psy's suc-

cess "to the universal appeal of catchy music -- and er, great equine dance moves."

Psy has swept all before him in the past five months, hoovering up awards and scoring guest appearances with everyone from Madonna to the head of the United Nations.

Although its imminent demise has been predicted many times, the Psy phenomenon has simply refused to die.

Every time it has looked like fading, another parody, another celebrity or even another world leader has popped up to administer some publicity CPR and restore it to health.

Dutch impound Steve Jobs superyacht over unpaid bill

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Steve Jobs' Dutch-built superyacht has been impounded in Amsterdam because of a dispute between the late Apple founder's estate and designer Philippe Starck over an unpaid bill, a Starck lawyer said Friday.

The Venus reportedly cost over 100 million euros (\$130 million) to build and was only unveiled in October, just over a year after Jobs died.

Jobs' estate says Starck should be paid a percentage of the overall cost of the project, which took over five years to complete. Starck says he should be paid a fixed nine million euros for his contribution, Klaassen said.

The estate is offering six million euros.

Klaassen said he was in contact with a Dutch lawyer representing the Jobs estate, Gerard Moussault.

"Hopefully we will come to an interim agreement with regard to security," Klaassen said.

Jobs' family, including widow Laurene Powell Jobs and their three children Reed, Erin and Eve, was supposed to take charge of the yacht in the United States.

Klaassen said he had seen documents that show Jobs and Starck were "very close in the period that the design was

made and the building proceeded.

That's one of the reasons there was no formal agreement on the job," he said.

The aluminium-hulled yacht was built by Royal De Vries shipbuilder's in Aalsmeer, just south of Amsterdam, with interiors designed by Starck.

The bridge features a control panel made up of an array of seven iMac computers.

Starck said last year that he was working on the yacht, which was mentioned in Walter Isaacson's biography of Jobs, who died on October 5, 2011. He said it was "sleek and minimalist", with teak decks.



Wishing you a Joyous
Holiday Season filled with
Peace and Happiness

Aruba Tourism Authority





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US gun lobby urges armed police in every school

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States' most powerful pro-gun lobbying group demanded Friday that armed police be deployed to every school in the country following a mass shooting that left 20 young children dead.

Even as the NRA leaders made their combative and determined appearance another four people died in Pennsylvania in America's latest shooting spree. But the lobbyists ceded no ground to those calling for tougher gun laws.

NRA vice-president Wayne LaPierre, said the NRA was ready to help train security teams for schools and work with teachers and parents to improve security measures, and accused the media and the political class of demonizing gun owners.

These deaths were only the latest in a series of mass shootings in the United States this year, and prompted President Barack Obama to throw his weight behind plans to revive a ban on assault weapons.

America has suffered an epidemic of gun violence over the last three decades including 62 mass shooting incidents since 1982. The vast majority

of weapons used have been semi-automatic weapons obtained legally by the killers.

There were an estimated 310 million non-military firearms in the United States in 2009, roughly one per citizen, and people in America are 20 times more likely to be killed by a gun than someone in another developed country.

But LaPierre insisted gun ownership was not the problem.

You know, five years ago after the Virginia Tech tragedy when I said we should put armed security in every school, the media called me crazy," he said, referring to a 2007 campus shooting that left 32 people dead.

"But what if, what if when Adam Lanza started shooting his way into Sandy Hook Elementary School last Friday he'd been confronted by qualified armed security?" he demanded. "Will you at least admit it's possible that 26 little kids, that 26 innocent lives might have been spared that day? Is it so abhorrent to you that you'd rather continue to risk the alternative?"

The statement did not impress Chris Murphy, the congressman who represents the

district that includes the school.

"Walking out of another funeral and was handed the NRA transcript. The most revolting, tone deaf statement I've ever seen," he said, on Twitter.

And the statement immediately drew criticism from supporters of tougher gun control, who are pushing to ban semi-automatic assault weapons like the .223 Bushmaster rifle that Lanza used in Friday's shooting.

"The NRA leadership's drive to fill our schools with more deadly guns and ammo is wildly out of touch with responsible gun owners and the American public," New Jersey Senator Frank Lautenberg said.

But LaPierre ploughed on, warning that more killers are actively plotting to attack schools.

And he slammed and attacked media conglomerates, denouncing violent video games, music videos that celebrate crime and Hollywood movies that glamorize violence.

"Isn't fantasizing about killing people as a way to get your kicks really the filthiest form of pornography?" he demanded.



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Commodities haunted by US fiscal worries before Christmas

LONDON (AFP) - Commodity markets were hit this week in the run-up to Christmas, as hopes faded for a deal to avert the "fiscal cliff" of tax rises and spending cuts that could send the world's biggest economy spinning into recession, analysts said.

Unless the political deadlock in Washington is broken, the fiscal cliff measures will be implemented in the United States -- a major consumer of many raw materials -- on January 1.

Commodity markets had won support last week after the US central bank launched more stimulus measures. But data showed Thursday that the American economy grew 3.1

percent in the third quarter, faster than previously estimated, dampening hopes of more stimulus.

OIL: Prices diverged this week, but saw steep losses on Friday as sentiment was rocked by intensifying fiscal cliff concerns in top crude consumer the United States.

Prices had rallied Tuesday amid indications Washington was inching closer to resolving the budget impasse, after US President Barack Obama met with top Republican lawmaker John Boehner in the latest effort to broker an agreement.

The market also rose on Wednesday following news of a decline in US petroleum in-

ventories, which indicated strong demand.

Crude futures paused on Thursday but dived by more than a dollar on Friday amid the political stalemate in Washington.

A Republican plan to let tax breaks expire on US millionaires collapsed late Thursday when it failed to earn enough party support.

Early Friday, Republican leaders said they were not walking away from negotiations but a compromise remains elusive, and investors remain on edge.

The measure had been blasted by Obama's Democrats as a diversionary tactic that

would never have passed in the Senate, where they hold a majority.

By Friday on the New York Mercantile Exchange, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) or light sweet crude for delivery in February rose to \$88.40 per barrel from \$86.51 a week earlier for the January contract.

On London's Intercontinental Exchange, Brent North Sea crude for February dipped to \$108.88 a barrel from \$109.00 last week for the January contract.

PRECIOUS METALS: Gold struck the lowest level since August, hit also by profit-taking ahead of the year-end, dragging other pre-

cious metals lower.

By late Friday on the London Bullion Market, gold slid to \$1,651.50 an ounce from \$1,696.25 a week earlier.

Silver dropped to \$29.89 an ounce from \$32.52.

On the London Platinum and Palladium Market, platinum declined to \$1,533 an ounce from \$1,613.

Palladium fell to \$675 an ounce from \$700.

GRAINS AND SOYA: Maize, wheat and soya prices all fell.

By Friday on the Chicago Board of Trade, maize for delivery in March dipped to \$7.01 a bushel from \$7.30 a week earlier.

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